

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the foregoing amendment and following remarks. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-6 are currently pending in this application.

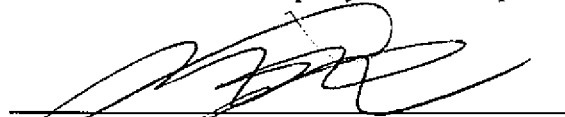
The Examiner rejects claims 1, 4, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,782,673, to Warehime. The Examiner further posits that although it is true that the mixing tube of Warehime does not incorporate a mixing tube that is rigidly fixed to the collar when the mixing tube is out of the jet assembly, claim 1 does not differentiate between "in" the assembly and "out" of the assembly. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the collar is rigidly fixed to an outer surface of the mixing tube in an upper region of the mixing tube prior to the mixing tube being installed in the high-pressure fluid jet system. (Emphasis added). In contrast, the collet insert 464 of Warehime is not rigidly fixed to an outer surface of the nozzle tube 472 before assembly of the fluid-jet system in Warehime.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-6 are allowable. If questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,

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